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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Shin-ichi Hashimoto,

Kouji Matsushima, and Sumio Sugano

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For: METHODS FOR OBTAINING GENE
TAGS

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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows to comply with national stage requirements.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3.

Remarks begin on page 9.